Mr. M. Subrahmanya Pillai.

13 Q.—(*a*) Are the Government aware of the representations made by Mr. M. Sivathanu Pillai, Sri Mulam Popular Assembly Member for Agastisvaram, at several sessions of the Assembly, on the question of the standard measure for Nanjinad, otherwise known as the question of the Marakkal-Para equivalence, and the printed explanatory memorandum submitted by him?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to state what action they have already taken on the subject and whether they have completely dealt with the same? If they have not, will they consider the desirability of appointing a Committee of officials and non-officials to collect all information on this agrarian question and to submit a detailed report?

Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.

13 A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The orders of Government on the representations referred to in part (*a*) of the question will be found in G. O. No. L. R. 5631/1705 of 1908, dated the 1st July 1920 (*vide* pages 682 and 683 of Part I of the Travancore Government Gazette dated the 6th July 1920).

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan.

14 Q.—(1) With reference to the answer furnished by the Government to interpellation No. 1 (*b*) at the meeting of the Council held on the 11th November 1920, will they now be pleased to issue necessary orders doing away with the practice of putting up the bamboo-mat boards near temples in the Southern Division, which causes considerable inconvenience to the people, who, by such notices are debarred from holding personal communications or transacting business with their fellow-citizens living within the streets concerned during Utsavams, however long the period may be, and since the custom, however old, is not in keeping with the enlightenment or spirit of the time, and affects the whole bulk of the non-caste people, who form more than 75 per cent. of the population in the Division?

(2) Will the Government be also pleased to order at an early date the removal of the two boards said to be standing near the Manakad Sastha temple, Trivandrum, which are supposed to prohibit the use, by non-caste Hindus, of the footpaths on which the boards stand?

(3) (*a*) As regards the numerous boards in the Northern Division, the inscriptions of which are said to be obliterated, have the Government taken any steps to remove them in view of the repeated representations made on the subject in the Council and outside, and, if not, do they propose to take any steps and, if so, when?

(*b*) Are the Government aware of the fact that the recent disturbances in the Northern taluks between Caste-Hindus and Ezhavas are traceable to the custom of caste pollution still obtaining there, that the notice boards in question encourage it to a great extent by giving official recognition to it and prevent it from dying a natural death under the pressure of the time, and that the immediate removal of them is, therefore, a pressing necessity?

(*c*) Will the Government be also pleased to state with reference to the boards put up by Mr. Sankaralingam Pillai, as Tahsildar, the circumstances that led to the putting up of them at so recent a date as 1081, and whether his action in the matter has legal support, and if so, how?

Chief Secretary Mr. N. Rajaram Rao.

14 A.—(1), (2), and (3) (*a*) and (*c*)

The matters referred to in these parts of the question are still under the enquiry of Government.

(3) (*b*) Government are not prepared to express opinions.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan.

15 Q.—With reference to the answer furnished by the Government to interpellation No. 6 put at the last meeting of the Council, (1) will the Government be pleased to take into consideration the circumstance that it would naturally take time to provide all Sirkar Satroms with separate kitchens and that it would be improper to keep non-caste people waiting indefinitely until this is done; and (2) will they, in the meantime, be pleased to issue further orders allowing at least the use of the resting rooms in such Satroms by the said people, barring the kitchens, if need be?

Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.

15 A.—Orders will be issued allowing the use of resting rooms by non-caste people in Satroms referred to in Paragraph 2 of G. O. No. P. W. 1790 A, dated the 19th March 1913.

Mr. N. Kumaran Asan.

16 Q.—With reference to the answer furnished by the Government to interpellation No. 10, put at the last meeting of the Council, will the Government be pleased to state whether the investigations in respect of the fires in other temples than Haripad have closed now, and if so, will they be pleased to publish the results thereof in detail with reference to each occurrence with a view to giving satisfaction to the public and thus remove unwarranted and fanciful suspicions in the matter?

Secretary Mr. S. Parameswara Aiyar.

16 A.—The investigations in respect of these occurrences have not yet been completed.

Mr. C. Raman Tampi.

17 Q.—(1) Will Government be pleased to call for a statement showing—

(*a*) the number of cases filed in each of the courts of Magistrates (exercising First Class powers), under Section 128 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, during the last 5 years;

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